Archie COMICS

#34

$2.25 US

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SONIC X

TM

DIRECT EDITION

FOOL PARTY!

NOT LONG AGO, ONE OF DR. EGGMAN'S DEVICES SENT US ALL TO EARTH. SINCE THEN, MY FRIENDS AND I HAVE BEEN KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE FROM DR. EGGMAN'S WORLD-CONQUERING SCHEMES.

SO WHY AM I IN THE SAME POOL AS HIM, AND ABOUT TO GET DUNKED?

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JUST THE OTHER DAY...

CARE TO EXPLAIN THIS, BUDDY?

STATION SQUARE TIMES

Hmm? I THOUGHT YOU KNEW.

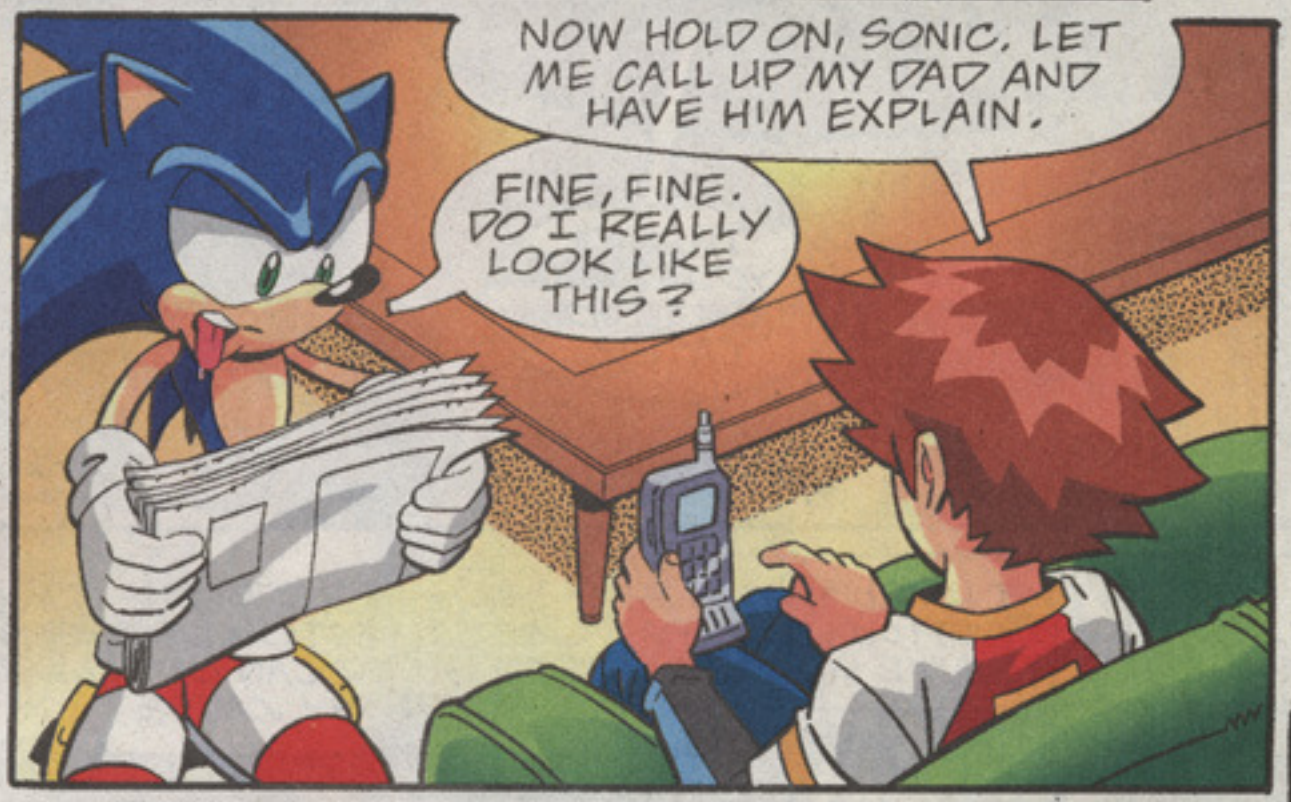
MY DAD'S COMPANY IS HOLDING A LARGE CHARITY DRIVE.

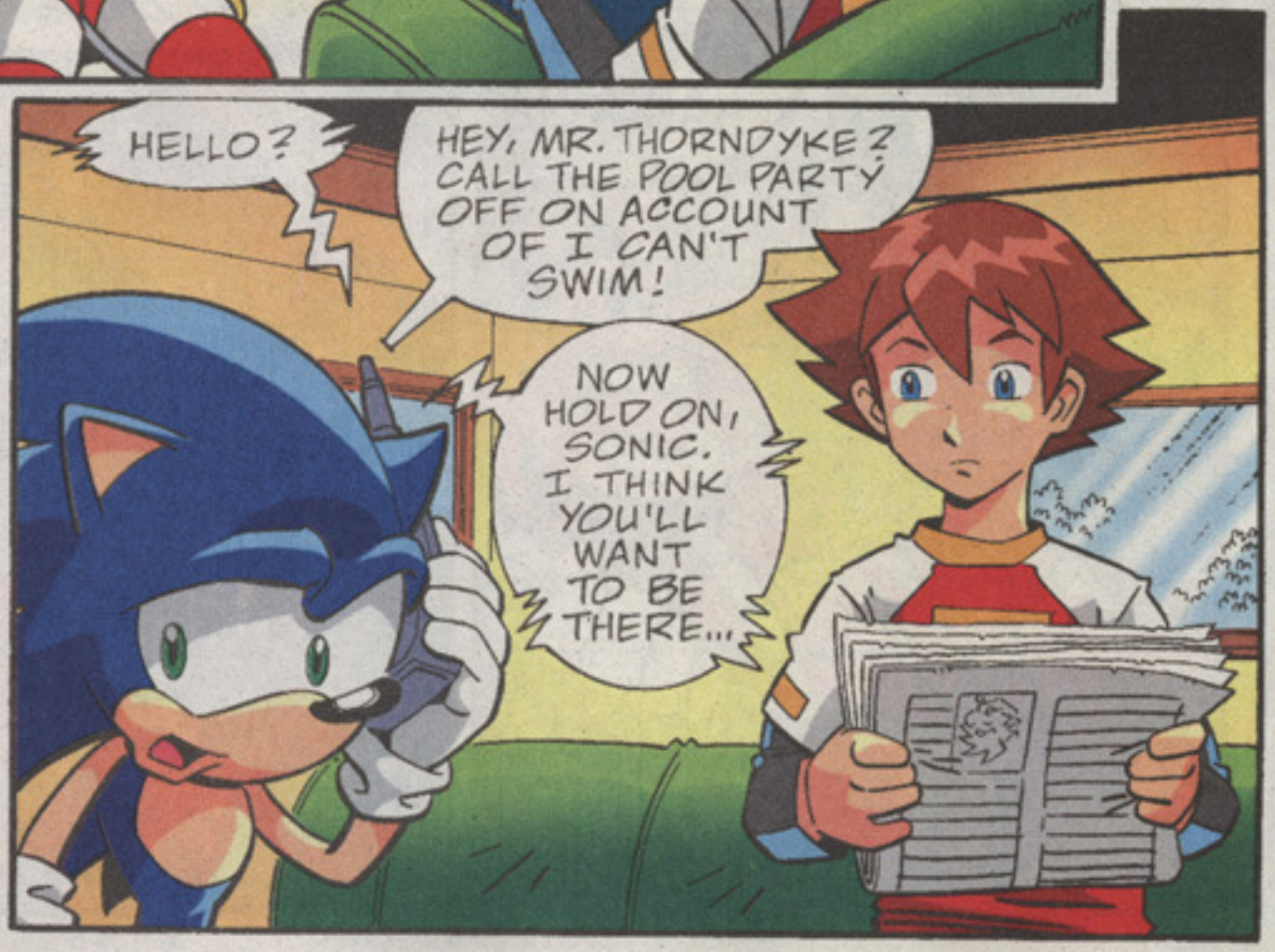
THE PERSON WHO DONATES THE MOST MONEY TO THE CHARITY GETS TO COME HERE TO THE MANOR FOR A POOL PARTY!

YEAH, BUT THIS IS THE PART THAT GOT MY ATTENTION.

THORNDYKE INDUSTRIES ANNOUNCED A CHARITY DRIVE THIS WEEK. THE GRAND PRIZE FOR THE TOP DONATOR IS A POOL PARTY AT THE STATELY THORNDYKE MANOR WITH **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG.** "THE REAL PRIZE IS DOING A GOOD DEED," MR. THORNDYKE SAID.

WELL, THAT'S REALLY THE SELLING POINT. YOU'RE SUPER POPULAR!
I ALSO SINK LIKE A ROCK! SO, NO POOL PARTY!


NOW HOLD ON, SONIC. LET ME CALL UP MY DAD AND HAVE HIM EXPLAIN.
FINE, FINE. DO I REALLY LOOK LIKE THIS?


HELLO?
HEY, MR. THORNDYKE? CALL THE POOL PARTY OFF ON ACCOUNT OF I CAN'T SWIM!
NOW HOLD ON, SONIC. I THINK YOU'LL WANT TO BE THERE...

...SINCE IT SEEMS LIKE DR. EGGMAN WILL WIN THE CHARITY DRIVE.

REALLY, NOW? I GUESS I'LL STICK AROUND TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON, THEN.

THANK YOU. I'LL TALK TO YOU LATER.

I'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE TO MAKE IT OFFICIAL, BUT I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN YOU'VE WON, DR. EGGMAN.

MWA-HA-HA-HA-HA!

Ahem! I MEAN--I'M GLAD MY COLLECTION OF GREEN-SLIPS-OF-PAPER CAN GO TO SUCH A WORTHY CAUSE!

WHAT'S THE PLAN TO GET SONIC THIS TIME, DOCTOR?

OH, I KNOW!

YOU'RE GOING TO DROWN HIM IN THE POOL!

Er... NO.

THEN YOU'LL ROAST HIM ON THE BARBEQUE!

NO!

OOH! OOH! WHAT IF WE BADMINTONED HIM TO AN EARLY GRAVE?!

YES! I'VE BEEN WORKING ON MY BACK-HAND!

NO!

THIS ISN'T ABOUT SONIC AT ALL! LOOK AT THIS!

STATION SQUARE TIMES

YOU MEAN THE ARTICLE ABOUT... SONIC?

DING!

CHUCK THORNDYKE HAS JUST FINISHED A REVOLUTIONARY NEW ENGINE.

STATION SQUARE TIMES

THE POOL PARTY IS JUST AN EXCUSE TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO STEAL IT WITHOUT ANY RESISTANCE!

THAT WAS GOING TO BE MY NEXT GUESS!

SUUURE IT WAS.

THE DAY OF THE POOL PARTY!

I BEG YOUR PARDON, EVERYONE. I AM HERE TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE POOL IS READY. THE PARTY MAY BEGIN WHENEVER YOU WISH.

OH, GOODY! COME ALONG, BOYS!

DIBS ON THE LEMONADE!

WOW! DO YOU THINK WE'LL HAVE FUN TODAY?

AS LONG AS I STAY OUT OF THE POOL, SURE!

SOON...

THIS IS NICE! JUST KICKING BACK AND RELAXING...

THE GIRLS ARE PLAYING AS IF NOTHING WEIRD IS GOING ON.

SO IS CHUCK. EGGMAN HASN'T TRIED ANYTHING *YET*, BUT I TRUST HIM AS WELL AS I CAN SWIM.

I HAVE TO ADMIT, EGGMAN. I'M IMPRESSED WITH THESE FLOATS OF YOURS.

I'M SO GLAD YOU APPROVE, CHUCK! SO TELL ME! FROM ONE BRILLIANT INVENTOR TO ANOTHER...

...WHERE WOULD YOU KEEP A SUPER-ADVANCED ENGINE?

HYPOTHETICALLY.

I KEEP ALL MY INVENTIONS IN THE WORKSHOP OVER THE GARAGE.

FASCINATING!

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I MUST ***STEAL*** AWAY FOR MORE SUNSCREEN!

...oh my!

Ahhh! WHAT A PERFECT DAY TO SUNBATHE!

WHAT A VISION! NEVER HAVE I SEEN YOUR HOMELY MAID SO FETCHING AND RADIANT!

ERGH...

THERE'S BEEN A SLIGHT CHANGE IN PLANS TODAY!

?

HEY GUYS! WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SAD?

BECAUSE WE ARE BORED, TAILS.

A POOL PARTY'S NO FUN WHEN YOU CAN'T SWIM.

I COULD TEACH YOU HOW.

IT'S NOT THAT. OUR CIRCUITRY WOULD SHORT OUT IF WE GOT WET.

AND WE CAN'T EVEN GET A TAN! WE REFLECT THE SUNLIGHT!

THEN IT'S EVEN EASIER! C'MON! I'LL MODIFY YOU TO BE WATER-WORTHY!

REALLY?!

I DON'T KNOW, TAILS... I THINK I REMEMBER THE DOCTOR SAYING HE PUT FAIL-SAFES IN US TO STOP ANY MODIFICATIONS.

DON'T WORRY, BOCOE. I'LL BE CAREFUL.

I WANT TO PLAY WATER POLO FIRST.

THIS LOOKS SIMPLE ENOUGH. FIRST I JUST HAVE TO TURN THIS PART OFF FOR SAFETY AND...

PROTOCOL E.G.G.-202 INITIATED! DESTROY SABOTEUR!

Eep!

SEE IF I DO ANYTHING NICE FOR YOU GUYS AGAIN!

I BET I CAN HOLD MY BREATH LONGER THAN YOU, GRANDPA!

YOU'RE ON!

OW! I HAVE WATER IN MY EAR!

I'LL GO GET YOU AN EAR SWAB!

AHHH! HELP!

SPLASH!

SAVE SOME FOR THE OTHER GUESTS!

BUT I'M THIRSTY!

YOU DRANK THE LAST THREE PITCHERS!

SO?!

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

SI, THE GARAGE IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MANOR.

YOU MEAN THAT WAY?

FOR THE FIFTH TIME, YES!

RELAX, LINDSAY! WE'VE COOKED ON THE BARBEQUE BEFORE!

YES, BUT WITH ELLA'S SUPER-VISION. DID WE NEED THAT MUCH LIGHTER FLUID?

WOOOSH!

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

SONIC!

YOU WILL COMPETE WITH ME IN A DIVING CONTEST TO DISPLAY MY DESIRABLE PROWESS.

YEAH RIGHT.

DON'T WORRY, SONIC! I'LL GO FIRST AND HELP YOU BACK TO THE SURFACE.

WELL... ALL RIGHT, THEN.

ARE YOU WATCHING, ELLA?

BESIDES, MAYBE IT WILL GET HIM OUT OF HERE SOONER.

SPLASH!

SPLASH!

ELLA! LOOK AT ME!

SOMEBODY HELP ME!

NOT LONG AGO, ONE OF DR. EGGMAN'S DEVICES SENT US ALL TO EARTH...

KER-SPLOOSH!

MY ENGINE! THAT WATER WILL HAVE RUINED IT!

I DIDN'T WANT TO GET *WET!* NOW I'M *SOAKED!*

GET ME DOWN FROM HERE!

PERFECT TIMING!

HA HA HA! THE BOTTOM OF THE POOL HAS NEVER LOOKED BETTER!

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE, DOCTOR.

B-B-BUT CAN'T WE AT LEAST STAY FOR AN ENGINE? I MEAN HOT DOG! FOR A HOT DOG?

...oh.

WELL... THANK YOU FOR HAVING US.

YUM! CHARCOAL-DOG!

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"WELL... THE DAMAGE TO THE MANOR WASN'T BAD...

...CHUCK AND TAILS ARE TRYING TO SALVAGE THE ENGINE..."

...AND CHRIS IS SAFE IN BED. WHAT A DISASTER OF A DAY!

I WOULDN'T SAY THAT.

NOBODY GOT HURT, AND I ACTUALLY HAD FUN IN THE POOL. THAT MAKES IT A GOOD DAY IN MY BOOK!

ALL THIS WATER AND WE DIDN'T EVEN GET TO SWIM.

I JUST HOPE DR. EGGMAN ISN'T TOO ANGRY WITH US.

ACTUALLY ...

... I DON'T THINK I'VE SEEN THE BOSS HAPPIER.

Looks like love has hatched for Eggman!

Come back next issue for costume-changing calamity as Sonic tries "Cracking the Eggman" in SONIC X #34!

And in the meantime, check out SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, SONIC ARCHIVES, and SONIC SELECT!

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LETTERS

DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!

As you can tell, we here at Archie like to start the summer off with a big splash! [insert groan here] Okay, okay...Let's check out your letters for this month!

Dear Sonic X-Grams: Welcome back! Man, did we miss ya! Just wanted to tell you to keep up the great work on both STH and SONIC X. I'm a devoted subscriber and collector of both, and I think they're coming along nicely. I love Spaz's covers on SONIC X! I wish we could see more of him, even though I also love Tracy Yardley's work!

Spaz is quite the talented artist, and as such, he has tons of work lined up! This is great for him, not-so-great for all the Sonic-Spaz lovers out there. But we're thrilled to have Tracy handling the cover chores, and we're glad you like him too! But if you want more Spaz, check out his work on both the SONIC ARCHIVES and SONIC SELECT covers, and be sure to check out all the classic stories each book has to offer!

But what I really want, along with many, many others, is a 3-part or 4-part "Shadow" mini-series. That would be awesome!

- CHAD B.
EMAILED TO SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Yep, we've heard THAT one before. Don't worry, Shadow-lovers...We have something VERY big planned for our favorite angsty 'hog.

Dear Sonic X-Grams: Hello! I felt that two years was long enough to read without giving any opinions, and I wanted to post what I thought of the SONIC X comic series. Simply put, I love it. It's nice to have a SONIC comic that's a funny, light read. SONIC THE HEDGEHOG is great, but SONIC X is a nice change of pace from its more serious counterpart. For the most part, the art is always excellent! I'm especially a fan of Tracy Yardley, James Fry, and Steven Butler's work in the book. They really set the standard for the interior art. The stories are always wonderful, with just the right amount of humor and action, and I've found myself enjoying Ian Flynn's stories a lot. He has a great understanding of the characters, show and games. Joe Edkin is great, and the Decoe and Bocoe story was hilarious.

Thanks for voicing your opinions! And we're glad you like Joe's work, because he will be back for SONIC X #36!

I have enjoyed the series through and through, and hope it lives just as long as the SONIC THE HEDGEHOG title has, if not longer!

- HEYOWAKKA
EMAILED TO SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

NEXT ISSUE: 35

"Cracking the Eggman" – The zaniness climbs to new heights next time as we see the many faces of Dr. Eggman...literally! Can Sonic fight his way through all these costumed look-alikes and get some answers, or will he wind up with egg on his face? Get the yolk?

ON SALE WEEK OF 08/04/08

FAN-ART

Ryan M.
From California

Olivia T.
From New Hampshire

Melody S.
From New York

Sara B.
From Iowa

Thanks for all the insightful comments this month, gang. We're glad to be working hard to bring you a comic you'll really enjoy! And don't forget: Keep on juicin'!

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